



Language  
Technologies  
Institute

Carnegie  
Mellon  
University

# Multimodal Machine Learning

## Lecture 2.1: Basic Concepts – Neural Networks

Louis-Philippe Morency

*\* Original course co-developed with Tadas Baltrusaitis.  
Spring 2021 edition taught by Yonatan Bisk*

# Lecture Objectives

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- Unimodal basic representations
  - Visual, language and acoustic modalities
- Data-driven machine learning
  - Training, validation and testing
  - Example: K-nearest neighbor
- Linear Classification
  - Score function
  - Two loss functions (cross-entropy and hinge loss)
- Neural networks

# Administrative Stuff

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# Lecture Highlight Form

<https://forms.gle/u3JuHoQhhUDRG3KY7>

The screenshot shows a web form titled "Lecture 2.1 - Highlight Form (Sept 8, 2020)". It includes a deadline notice: "DEADLINE Submit your Lecture Highlight form by Thursday Sept 10, 2020 at 10:40am EST. You have 42 hours to fill out this form, from the scheduled end time of the lecture." An important note states: "IMPORTANT: Please read the detailed instructions in Piazza's Resources section ('Lecture Highlights - Instructions.pdf', in the Instructions for Course Assignments list) before filling out this form." A link to the resources is provided: <https://piazza.com/cmu/fall2020/11777a/resources>. Below this, it says: "Your email address (lmorency@andrew.cmu.edu) will be recorded when you submit this form. Not you? [Switch account](#)". A red asterisk indicates a required field. The form has three main sections, each with a text input field and a "2 points" value:

- First 30 mins - Main take home message (about 15-40 words) \*** (2 points)  
Your answer
- (Optional) First 30 mins - Any question? Please include slide number(s)**  
Your answer
- Next 30 mins - Main take home message (about 15-40 mins) \*** (2 points)  
Your answer

Deadline: Tuesday 11:59pm ET

(for Thursday's lecture, the deadline is Thursday 11:59pm ET)

Use your Andrew CMU email

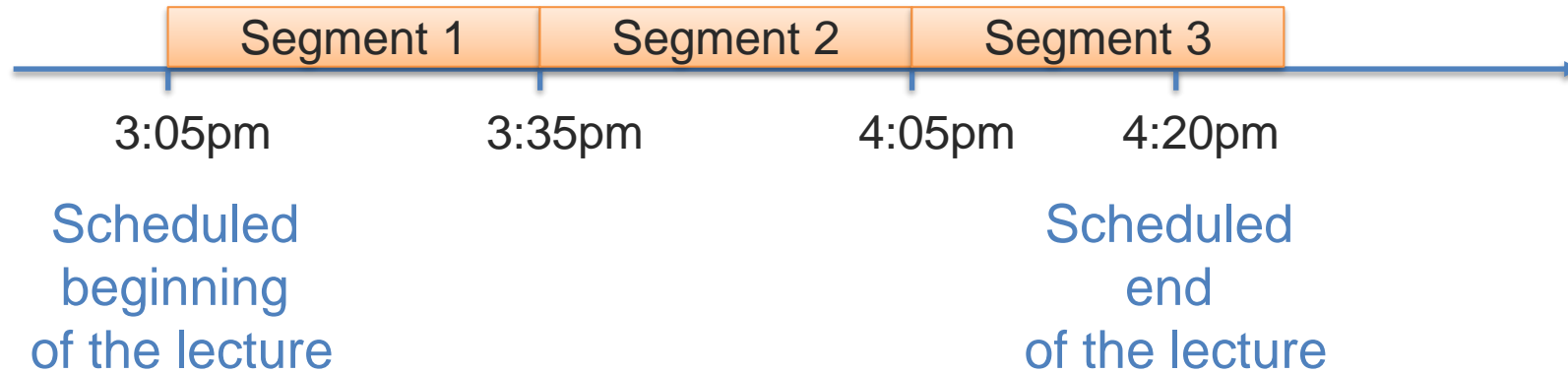
➡ You will need to login using this address

New form for each lecture

➡ Posted on Piazza's Resources section

# Lecture Highlight Form - Segments

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- ➡ Segment 1 starts at 3:05pm, even if the lecture starts slightly later.
- ➡ Segment 3 ends whenever the lecture ends
- ➡ Slides happening around the segment borders ( $\pm 5$ min of 3:35pm and 4:05pm) can be included in either neighboring segment.

# Lecture Highlight Form - Grading

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For each segment

- Two sentences (10+ words each; complete English sentences) describing the two main points described in this segment

For the whole lecture

- Your main two take-aways from the lecture
- About 15-40 words per take-home message
  - Try to be succinct, but with complete English sentences.
- Be concrete in your take-home messages
  - Avoid generic summaries like: “This is about multimodal”

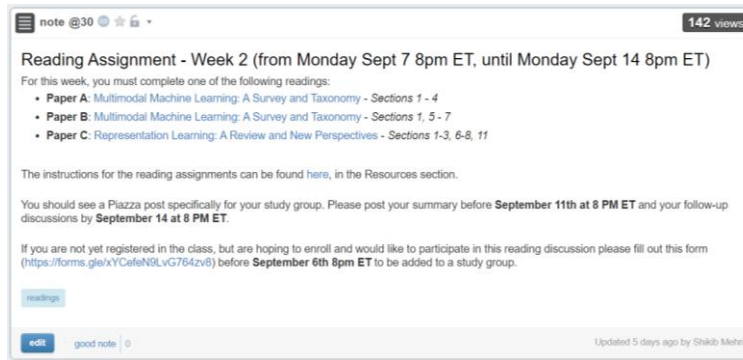
Each submission is worth 1 point

- Final grade is the sum of your top 15 submissions

# Reading Assignments – Piazza Posts

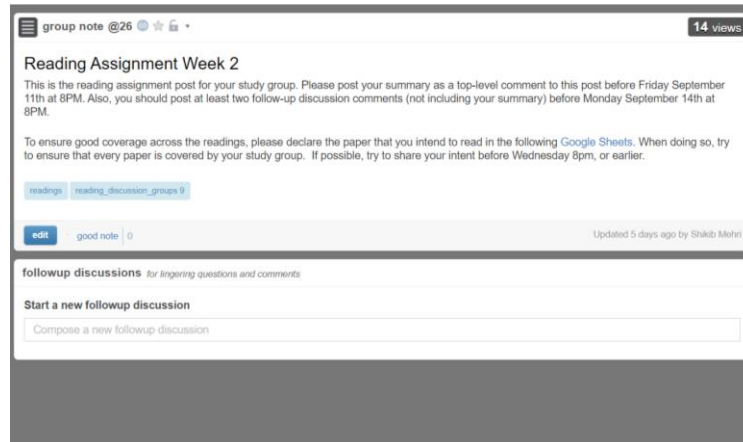
For each reading assignment, 2 instruction posts will be created:

1



- Sent to everyone
- Contains list of reading options

2



- Sent separately to each study group
- Link to personalized signup sheet
- Post your summary as top-level
- Post your follow-up posts

# Reading Assignments – Signup Sheet

Each study group has its own signup sheet:

Sign-up here for the paper option you would like to read and summarize

The details for the paper options are in the first Piazza post

	A	B	C	D	E
1	Please enter your AndrewID next to the paper you intend to read.	student 1	student 2	student 3	student 4
2	Paper A				
3	Paper B				
4	Paper C				
5	(see reading assignment instructions for paper ordering information)				
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					

It also contains the list of members in this study group

A different tab for each reading assignment



# Reading Assignments – Weekly Schedule

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Four main steps for the reading assignments

1. **Monday 8pm:** Official start of the assignment
2. **Wednesday 8pm:** Select your paper
3. **Friday 8pm:** Post your summary
4. **Monday 8pm:** End of the reading assignment

# Team Matching – Project Preference Form

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**11777 F20 Project Selection Form**

Project Preferences - Short Assignment (Due Tuesday Sept 8th at 8pm ET)

Following the lecture 1.2 about Multimodal Applications and Datasets, we are asking each of you to share your preferences for the course project. Please take a minute to look at the project options listed in the slides (see resources section in Piazza) and select three projects in rank-order that you would be interested in.

**\* Required**

Email address \*

Your email

Name \*

Firstname Lastname

Your answer

AndrewID (or email address) \*

Your answer

Your time zone (select UTC-4 for Pittsburgh) \*

Choose

**Deadline: Today at 8pm!!**

- ➡ Every students should submit a form
- ➡ Students on the waitlist are also encouraged to submit a form
- ➡ A summary will be shared to help you find potential teammates
- ➡ Also, you can use Piazza to share info and contact potential teammates

note @5 96 view

Search for Teammates!

add new post:

☒ I'm one student looking for more people to work with.

☐ I'm from a group looking for more students.

\*Name Louis-Philippe Morency \*Email morency@cs.cmu.edu

# Team Matching – Thursday Event

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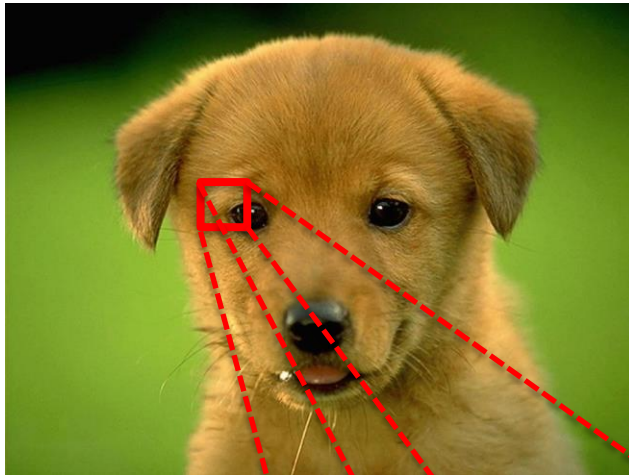
Thursday around 3:50pm ET  
(later part of the lecture)

- ➡ Detailed instructions will be shared during lecture
- ➡ Event optional for students who already have a full team

# Unimodal Basic Representations

# Unimodal Representation – Visual Modality

Color image



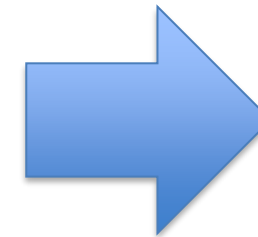
Each pixel is represented in  $\mathcal{R}^d$ ,  $d$  is the number of colors ( $d=3$  for RGB)

88	82	84	88	85	83	80	93	102
88	80	78	80	80	78	73	94	100
85	79	80	78	77	74	65	91	99
38	35	40	35	39	74	77	70	65
20	25	23	28	37	69	64	60	57
22	26	22	28	40	65	64	59	34
24	28	24	30	37	60	58	56	66
21	22	23	27	38	60	67	65	67
23	22	22	25	38	59	64	67	66

Input observation  $x_i$

88
88
85
38
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22
24
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23
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84
78
80
⋮

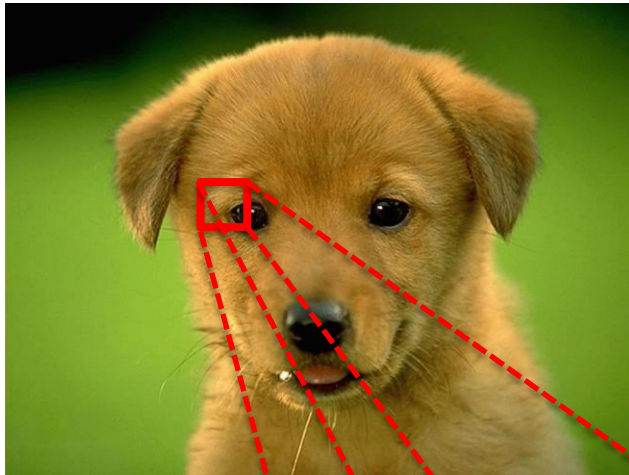
Binary classification problem



Dog ?

label  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y} = \{0,1\}$

# Unimodal Representation – Visual Modality



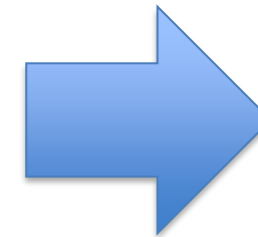
Each pixel  
is represented  
in  $\mathcal{R}^d$ ,  $d$  is the  
number of  
colors  
( $d=3$  for RGB)

88	82	84	88	85	83	80	93	102
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20	25	23	28	37	69	64	60	57
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24	28	24	30	37	60	58	56	66
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Input observation  $x_i$

88
88
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22
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21
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22
84
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⋮

**Multi-class  
classification problem**



Duck

-or-

Cat

-or-

Dog

-or-

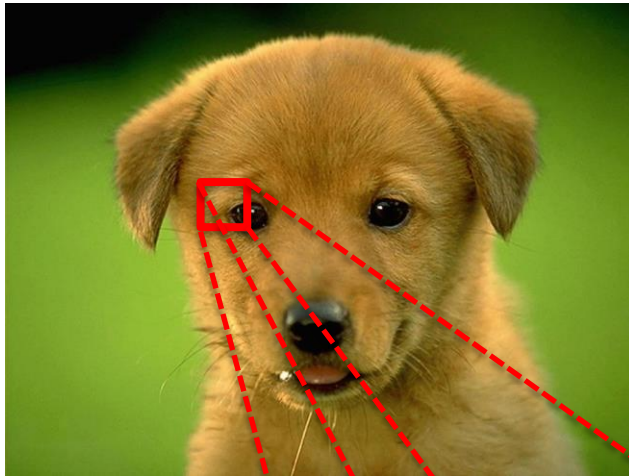
Pig

-or-

Bird ?

label  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y} = \{0,1,2,3, \dots\}$

# Unimodal Representation – Visual Modality



Each pixel  
is represented  
in  $\mathcal{R}^d$ ,  $d$  is the  
number of  
colors  
( $d=3$  for RGB)

88	82	84	88	85	83	80	93	102
88	80	78	80	80	78	73	94	100
85	79	80	78	77	74	65	91	99
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21	22	23	27	38	60	67	65	67
23	22	22	25	38	59	64	67	66

Input observation  $x_i$

88
88
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22
22
84
78
80
⋮

Multi-label (or multi-task)  
classification problem



Duck?

Cat ?

Dog ?

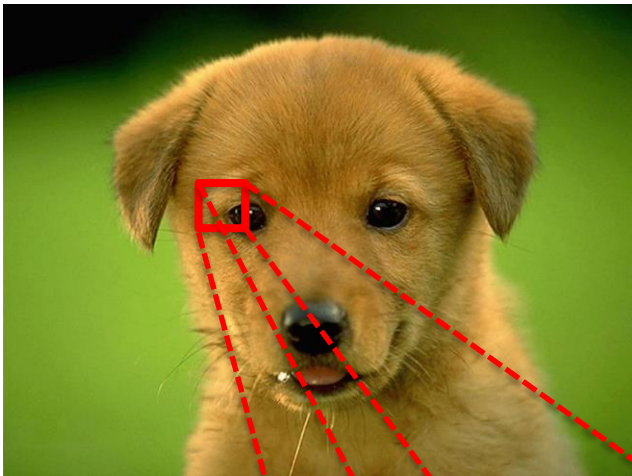
Pig ?

Bird ?

Puppy ?

label vector  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}^m = \{0,1\}^m$

# Unimodal Representation – Visual Modality



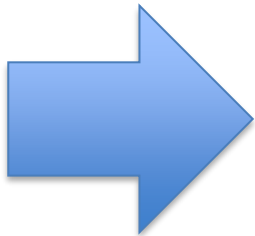
Each pixel is represented in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d$  is the number of colors ( $d=3$  for RGB)

88	82	84	88	85	83	80	93	102
88	80	78	80	80	78	73	94	100
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38	35	40	35	39	74	77	70	65
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Input observation  $x_i$

88
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85
38
20
22
24
21
23
82
80
79
35
25
26
28
22
22
84
78
80
⋮

Multi-label (or multi-task) regression problem



- Age ?
- Height ?
- Weight ?
- Distance ?
- Happy ?

label vector  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}^m = \mathbb{R}^m$



# Unimodal Representation – Language Modality

Written language

★★★★★ Masterful!

By Antony Witheyman - January 12, 2006

Ideal for anyone with an interest in disguises who likes to see the subject tackled in a **humourous** manner.

0 of 4 people found this review helpful

Spoken language

MARTHA(CON'T)

Look around you. Look at all the great things you've done and the people you've helped.

CLARK

But you've only put up the good things they say about me.

MARTHA

Clark, honey. If I were to use the bad things they say I could cover the barn, the house and the outhouse.

Input observation  $x_i$

0
0
0
0
0
0
1
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
0
...

“one-hot” vector

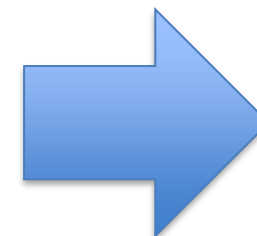
$|x_i|$  = number of words in dictionary

Word-level  
classification

Part-of-speech ?  
(noun, verb,...)

Sentiment ?  
(positive or negative)

Named entity ?  
(names of person,...)



# Unimodal Representation – Language Modality

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Input observation  $x_i$

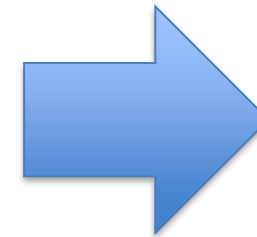
0
1
0
0
1
0
1
0
0
0
0
0
1
0
0
0
0
1
0
0
0
0
...

“bag-of-words” vector

$|x_i|$  = number of words in dictionary

Document-level  
classification

Sentiment ?  
(positive or negative)



# Unimodal Representation – Language Modality

Written language

★★★★★ Masterful!

By Antony Witheyman - January 12, 2006

Ideal for anyone with an interest in disguises who likes to see the subject tackled in a humourous manner.

0 of 4 people found this review helpful

Spoken language

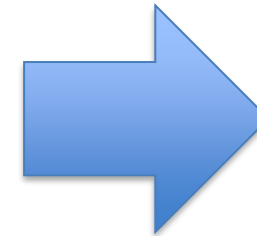
MARTHA(CON'T)  
Look around you. Look at all the great things you've done and the people you've helped.

CLARK  
But you've only put up the good things they say about me.

MARTHA  
Clark, honey. If I were to use the bad things they say I could cover the barn, the house and the outhouse.

Input observation  $x_i$

0
1
0
0
1
0
1
0
0
0
0
0
1
0
0
0
0
1
0
0
0
0
...



Utterance-level  
classification

Sentiment ?  
(positive or negative)

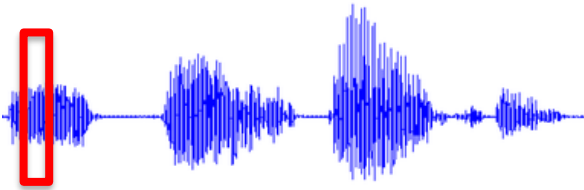
“bag-of-words” vector

$|x_i|$  = number of words in dictionary

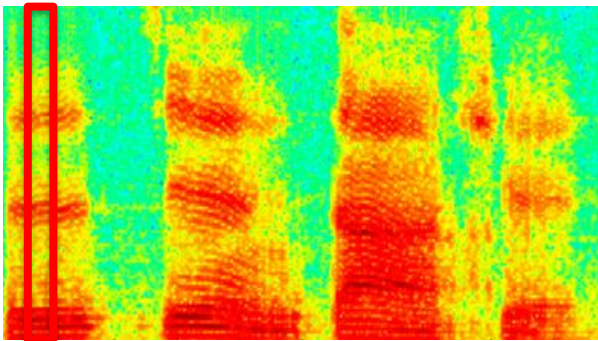
# Unimodal Representation – Acoustic Modality

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## Digitalized acoustic signal



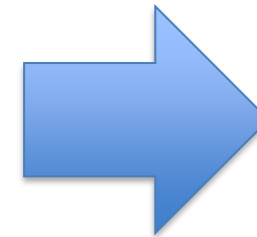
- Sampling rates: 8~96kHz
- Bit depth: 8, 16 or 24 bits
- Time window size: 20ms
  - Offset: 10ms



Spectrogram

Input observation  $x_i$

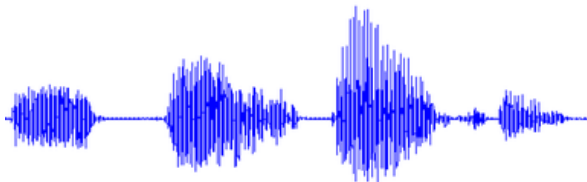
0.21
0.14
0.56
0.45
0.9
0.98
0.75
0.34
0.24
0.11
0.02



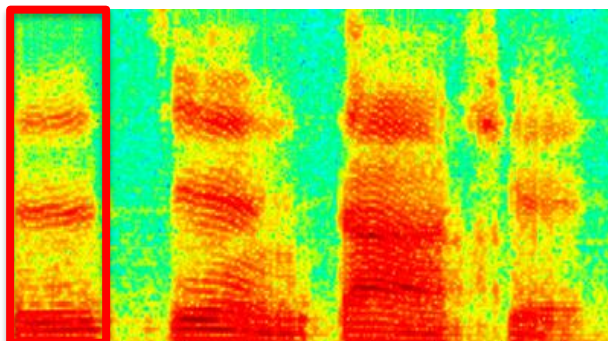
Spoken word ?

# Unimodal Representation – Acoustic Modality

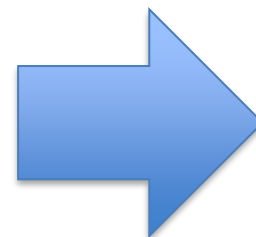
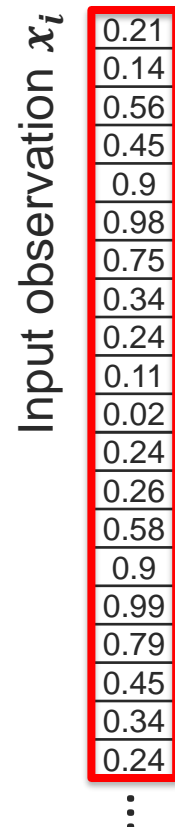
## Digitalized acoustic signal



- Sampling rates: 8~96kHz
- Bit depth: 8, 16 or 24 bits
- Time window size: 20ms
  - Offset: 10ms



Spectrogram



Emotion ?

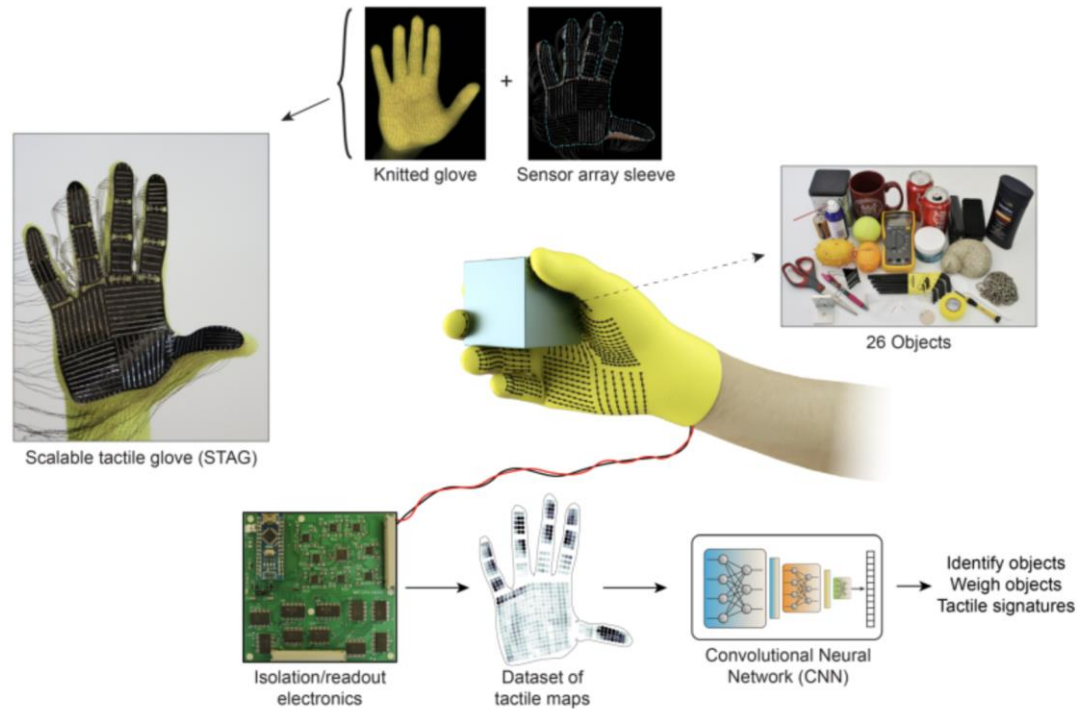
Spoken word ?

Voice quality ?

# Other Unimodal Representations

# Unimodal Representation – Sensors

---

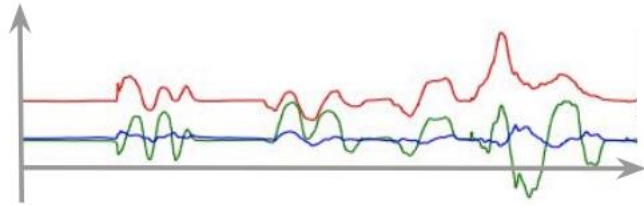


The tactile sensor array (548 sensors) is assembled on a knitted glove uniformly distributed over the hand.

Sundaram et al., Learning the signatures of the human grasp using a scalable tactile glove. Nature 2019

# Unimodal Representation – Sensors

---



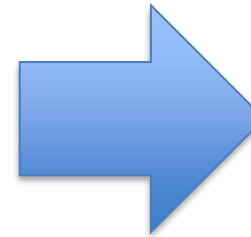
Time series data across six-axis Force-Torque sensor:  
 **$T \times 6$  signal.**

Force-Torque Sensor



Proprioception

Measure values internal to the system (robot); e.g. motor speed, wheel load, **robot arm joint angles**, battery voltage.



Time series data across current position and velocity of the end-effector:  
 **$T \times 2d$  signal.**



Next action

Lee et al., Making Sense of Vision and Touch: Self-Supervised Learning of Multimodal Representations for Contact-Rich Tasks. ICRA 2019



# Unimodal Representation – Tables

---



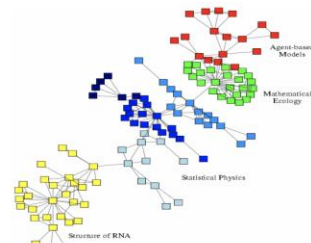
Bao et al., Table-to-Text: Describing Table Region with Natural Language. AAAI 2018

# Unimodal Representation – Graphs

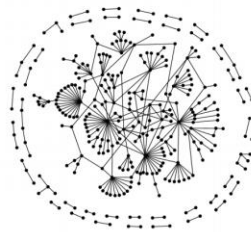
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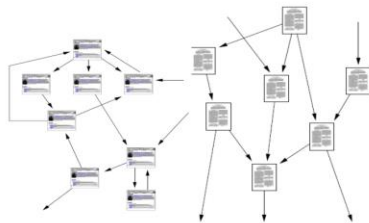
Social networks



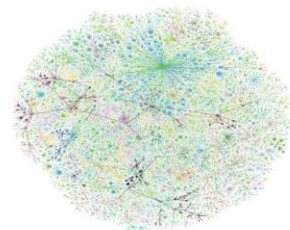
Economic networks



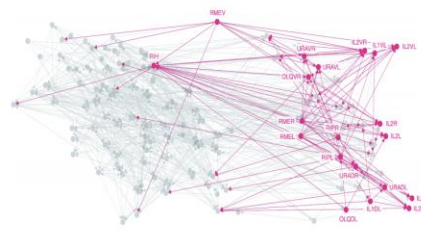
Biomedical networks



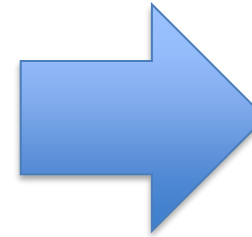
Information networks:  
Web & citations



Internet



Networks of neurons



## Tasks on graphs:

Node classification

Link prediction

...

## Using graphs:

Knowledge graphs

for QA

Social network for  
sentiment analysis

...

Hamilton and Tang, Tutorial on Graph Representation Learning. AAAI 2019

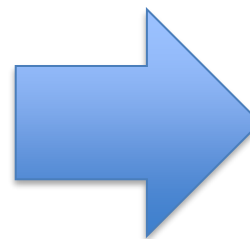
# Unimodal Representation – Sets



Sets



Point clouds



Set anomaly  
detection  
Set expansion  
Set completion  
Point cloud  
classification  
Point cloud  
generation

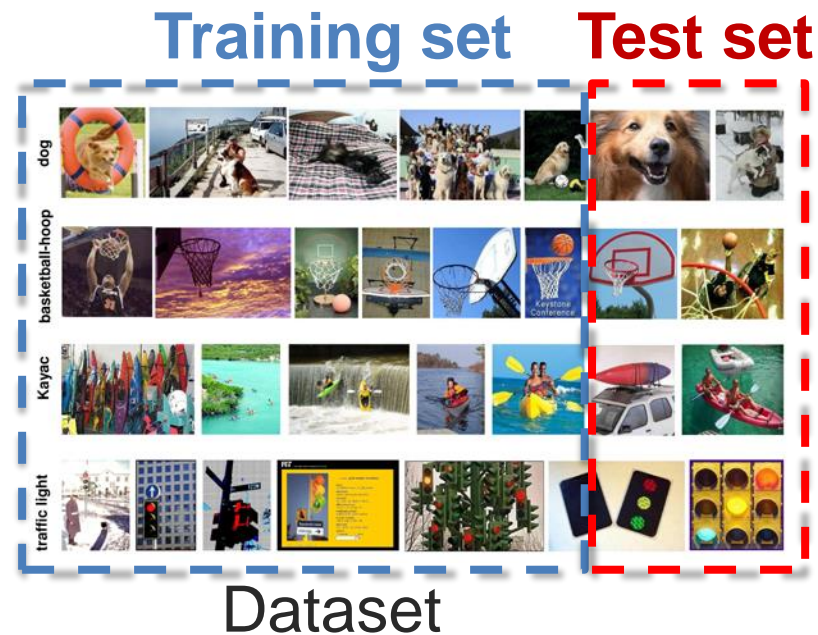
Zaheer et al., DeepSets. NeurIPS 2017, Li et al., Point Cloud GAN. arxiv 2018

# Machine Learning – Basic Concepts

# Training, Testing and Dataset

---

1. **Dataset:** Collection of labeled samples  $D: \{x_i, y_i\}$
2. **Training:** Learn classifier on training set
3. **Testing:** Evaluate classifier on hold-out test set



# Simple Classifier ?



Traffic light

-or-

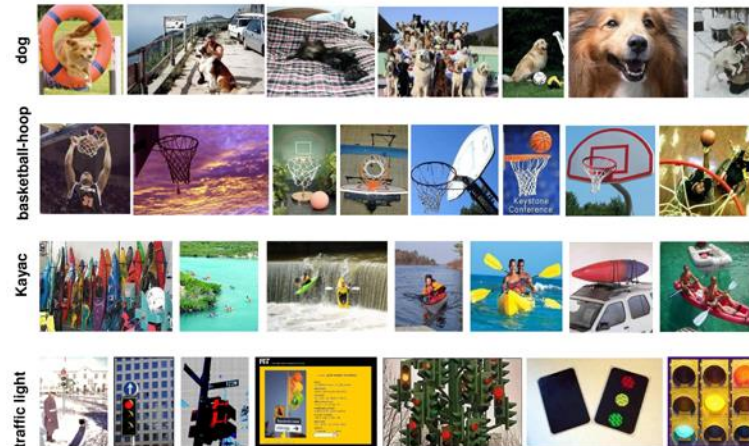
Dog

-or-

Basket

-or-

Kayak ?



Dataset



# Simple Classifier: Nearest Neighbor



Traffic light

-or-

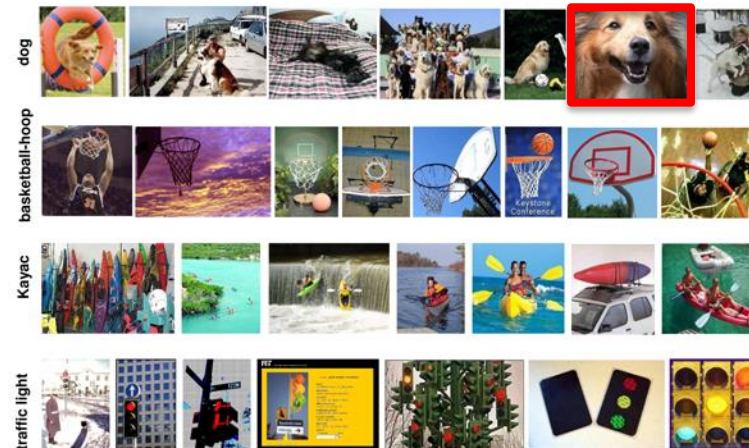
Dog

-or-

Basket

-or-

Kayak ?



Training

# Nearest Neighbor Classifier

---

- Non-parametric approaches—key ideas:
  - *“Let the data speak for themselves”*
  - *“Predict new cases based on similar cases”*
  - *“Use multiple local models instead of a single global model”*
- What is the complexity of the NN classifier w.r.t training set of  $N$  images and test set of  $M$  images?
  - at training time?  
 $O(1)$
  - At test time?  
 $O(N)$



# Simple Classifier: Nearest Neighbor

---

## Distance metrics



L1 (Manhattan) distance:

$$d_1(x_1, x_2) = \sum_j |x_1^j - x_2^j|$$

L2 (Euclidean) distance:

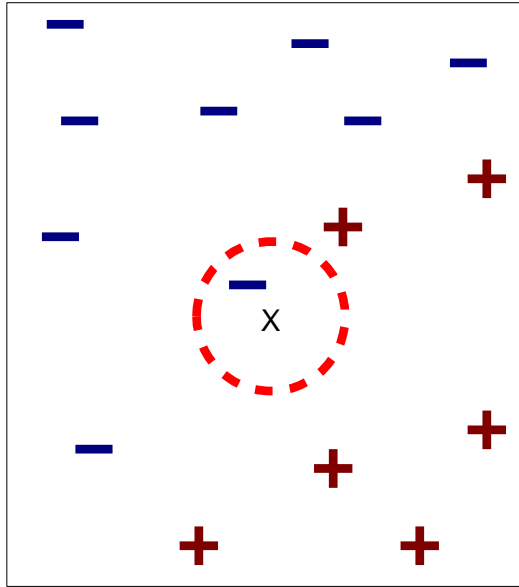
$$d_2(x_1, x_2) = \sqrt{\sum_j (x_1^j - x_2^j)^2}$$

**Which distance metric to use?**

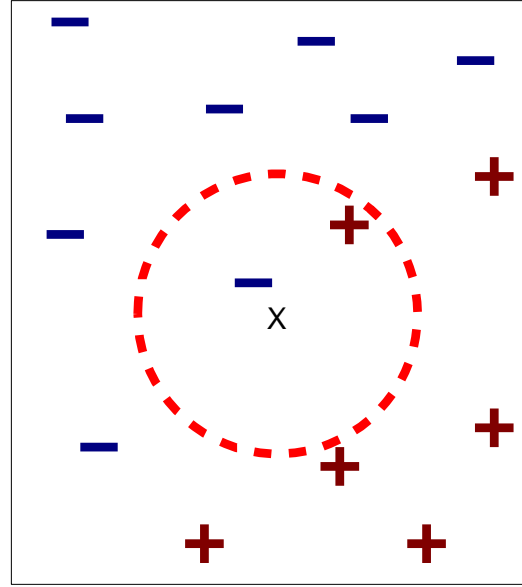
First hyper-parameter!

# Definition of K-Nearest Neighbor

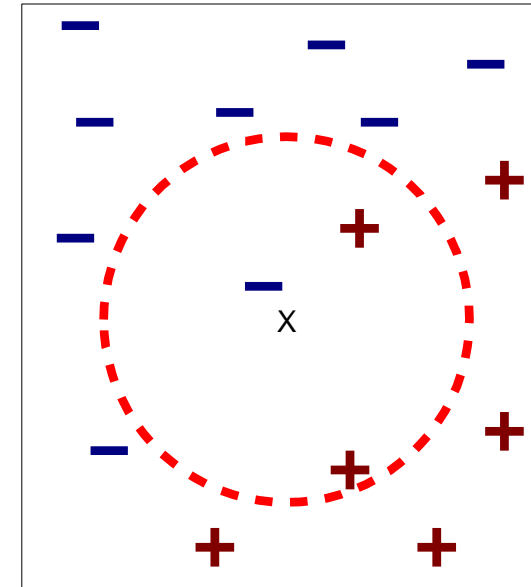
---



(a) 1-nearest neighbor



(b) 2-nearest neighbor



(c) 3-nearest neighbor

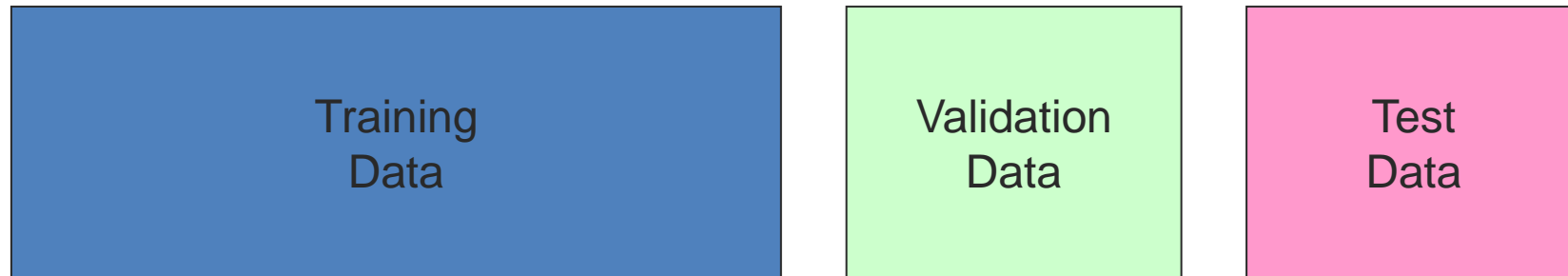
**What value should we set K?**

Second hyper-parameter!

# Data-Driven Approach

---

1. **Dataset:** Collection of labeled samples  $D: \{x_i, y_i\}$
2. **Training:** Learn classifier on training set
3. **Validation:** Select optimal hyper-parameters
4. **Testing:** Evaluate classifier on hold-out test set



## Evaluation methods (for validation and testing)

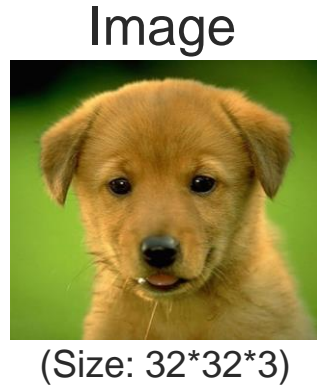
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- **Holdout set:** The available data set  $D$  is divided into two disjoint subsets,
  - the *training set*  $D_{train}$  (for learning a model)
  - the *test set*  $D_{test}$  (for testing the model)
- **n-fold cross-validation:** The available data is partitioned into  $n$  equal-size disjoint subsets.
- **Leave-one-out cross-validation:** This method is used when the data set is very small.

# Linear Classification: Scores and Loss

# Linear Classification (e.g., neural network)

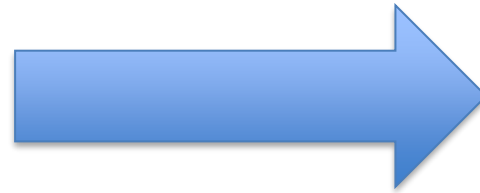
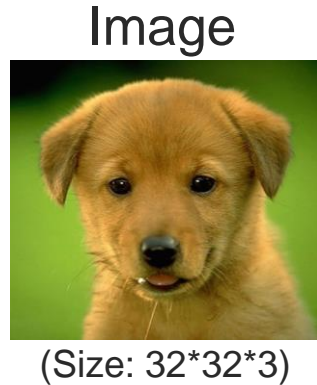
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?

1. Define a (linear) score function
2. Define the loss function (possibly nonlinear)
3. Optimization

# 1) Score Function



Duck ?  
Cat ?  
Dog ?  
Pig ?  
Bird ?

**What should be  
the prediction  
score for each  
label class?**

For linear classifier:

Input observation ( $i^{\text{th}}$  element of the dataset) [3072x1]

$$f(x_i; W, b) = Wx_i + b$$

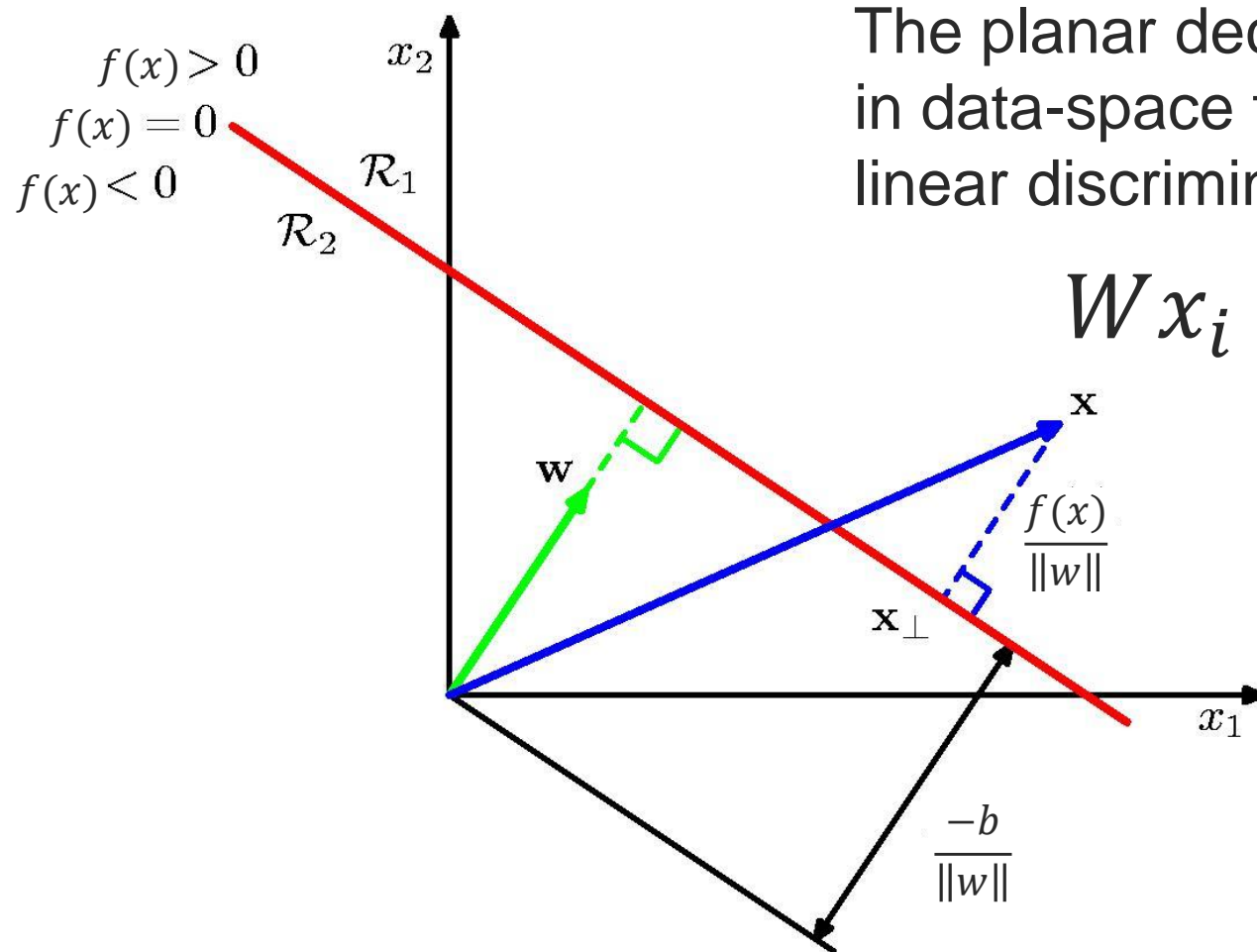
Class score [10x1]

Weights [10x3072]

Bias vector [10x1]

Parameters [10x3073]

# Interpreting a Linear Classifier





## Some Notation Tricks – Multi-Label Classification

---

$$W = [W_1 \quad W_2 \quad \dots \quad W_N]$$

$$f(x_i; W, b) = Wx_i + b \quad \longrightarrow \quad f(x_i; W) = Wx_i$$

Weights	x	Input	+	Bias
[10x3072]		[3072x1]		[10x1]

Weights	x	Input
[10x3073]		[3073x1]

The bias vector will  
be the last column of  
the weight matrix

Add a “1” at the  
end of the input  
observation vector

## Some Notation Tricks

---

General formulation of linear classifier:  $f(x_i; W, b)$

“dog” linear classifier:

$$f(x_i; W_{dog}, b_{dog}) \quad \text{or}$$

$$f(x_i; W, b)_{dog} \quad \text{or} \quad f_{dog}$$

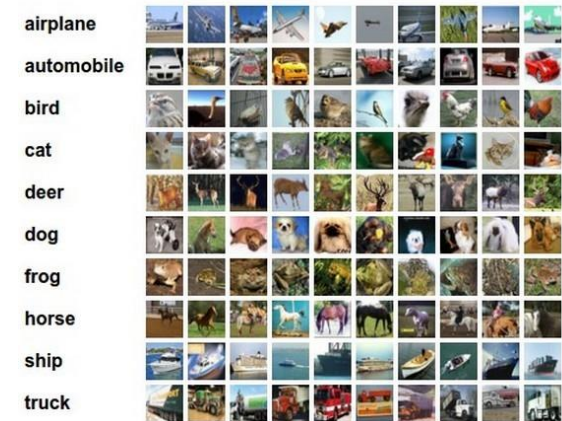
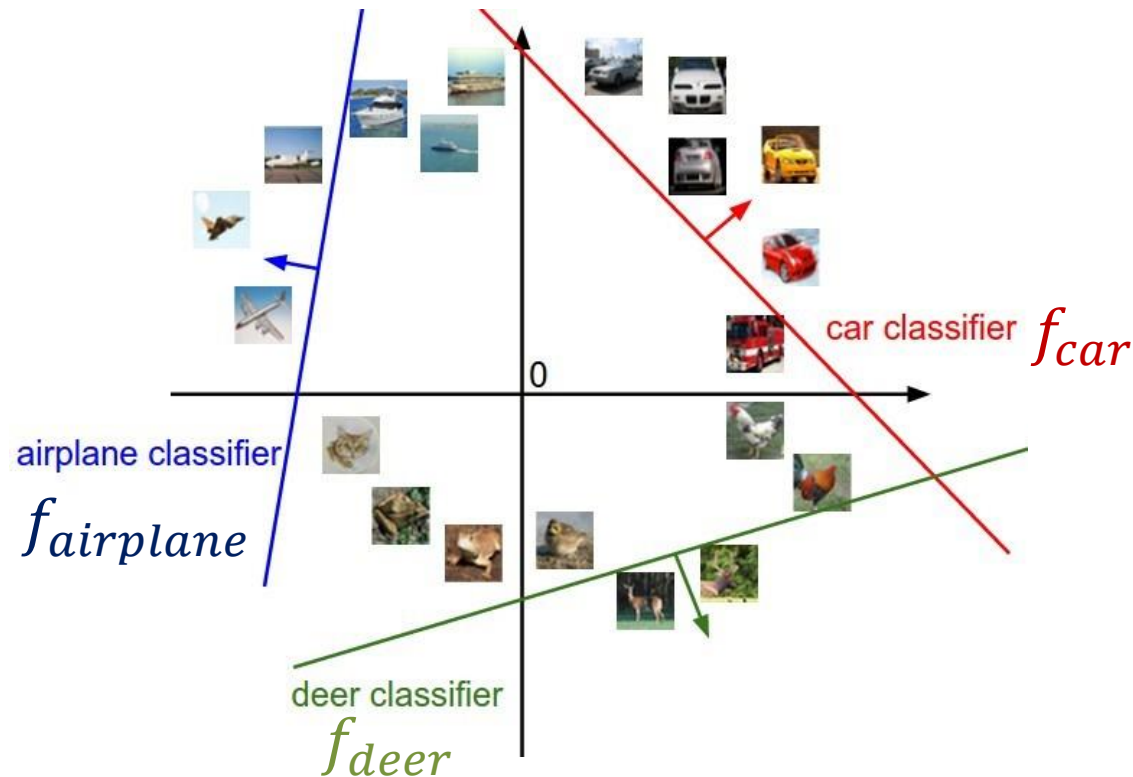
Linear classifier for label  $j$ :

$$f(x_i; W_j, b_j) \quad \text{or}$$

$$f(x_i; W, b)_j \quad \text{or} \quad f_j$$

# Interpreting Multiple Linear Classifiers

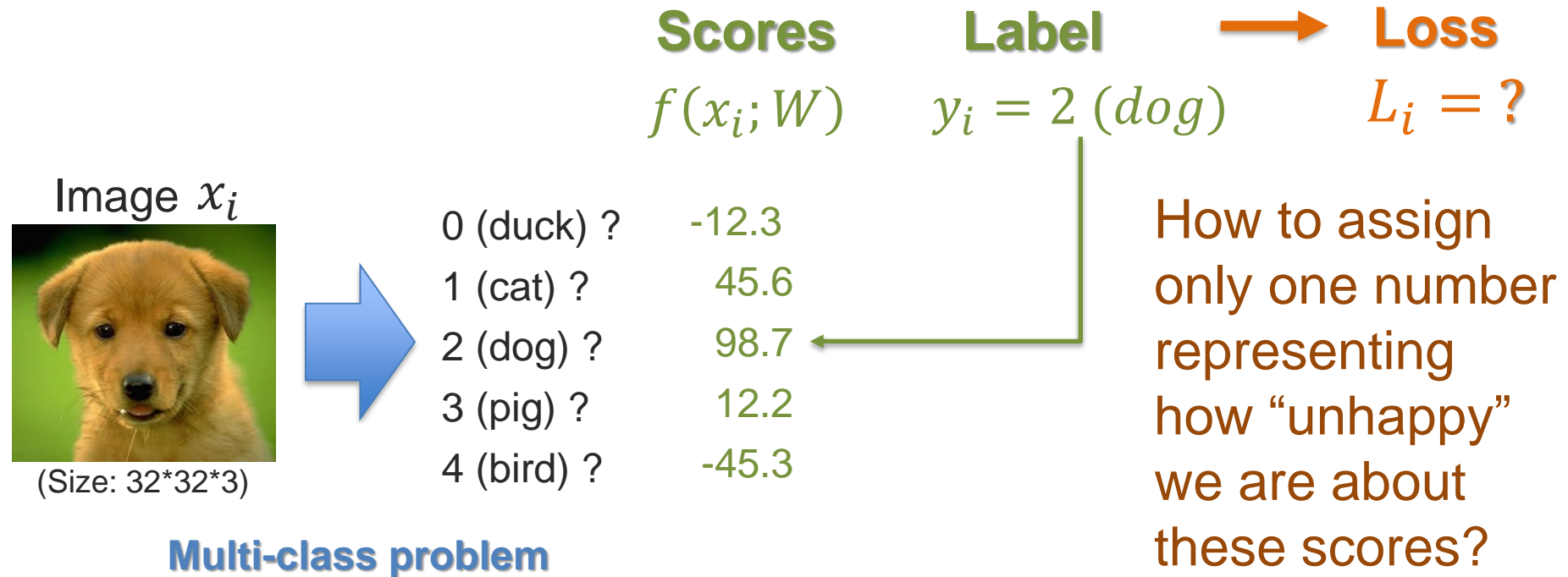
$$f(x_i; W_j, b_j) = W_j x_i + b_j$$



CIFAR-10 object  
recognition dataset

## Linear Classification: 2) Loss Function

(or cost function or objective)



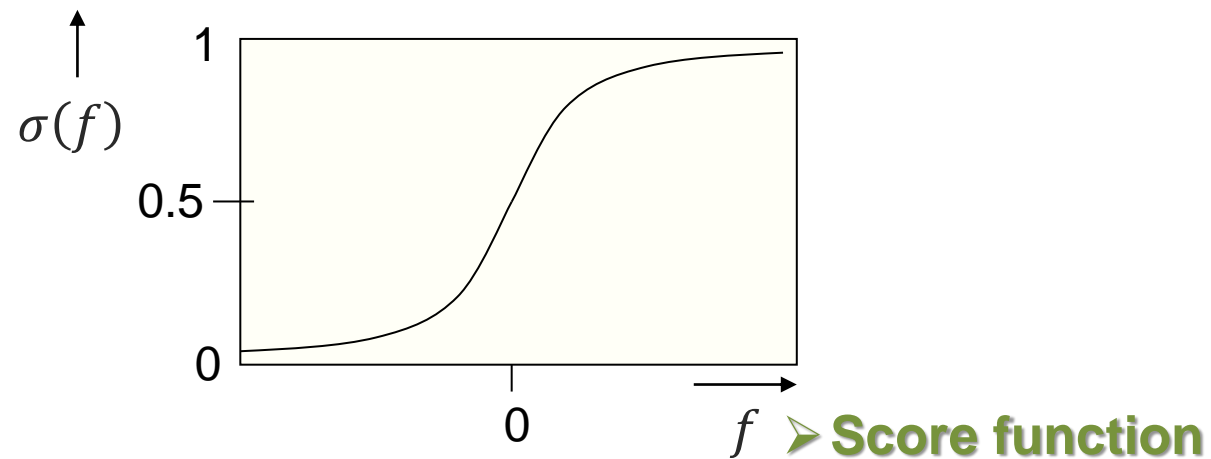
The loss function quantifies the amount by which the prediction scores deviate from the actual values.

A first challenge: how to normalize the scores?

# First Loss Function: Cross-Entropy Loss

(or logistic loss)

Logistic function: 
$$\sigma(f) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-f}}$$



# First Loss Function: Cross-Entropy Loss

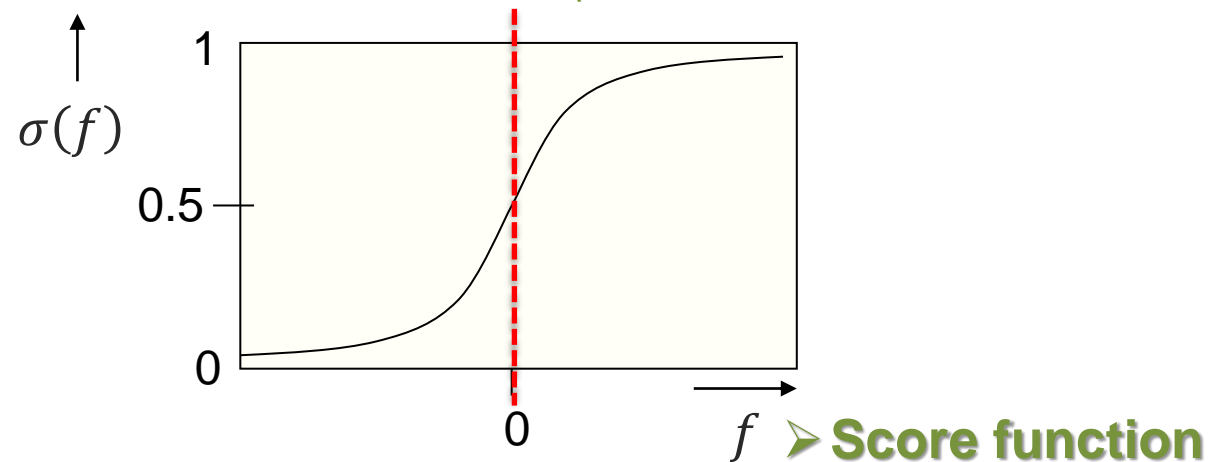
(or logistic loss)

Logistic function: 
$$\sigma(f) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-f}}$$

Logistic regression:  
(two classes)

$$p(y_i = \text{"dog"} | x_i; w) = \sigma(w^T x_i)$$

**= true**  
for two-class problem



# First Loss Function: Cross-Entropy Loss

---

(or logistic loss)

Logistic function:

$$\sigma(f) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-f}}$$

Logistic regression:  
(two classes)

$$p(y_i = \text{"dog"} | x_i; w) = \sigma(w^T x_i)$$

**= true**  
for two-class problem

Softmax function:  
(multiple classes)

$$p(y_i | x_i; W) = \frac{e^{f_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{f_j}}$$

# First Loss Function: Cross-Entropy Loss

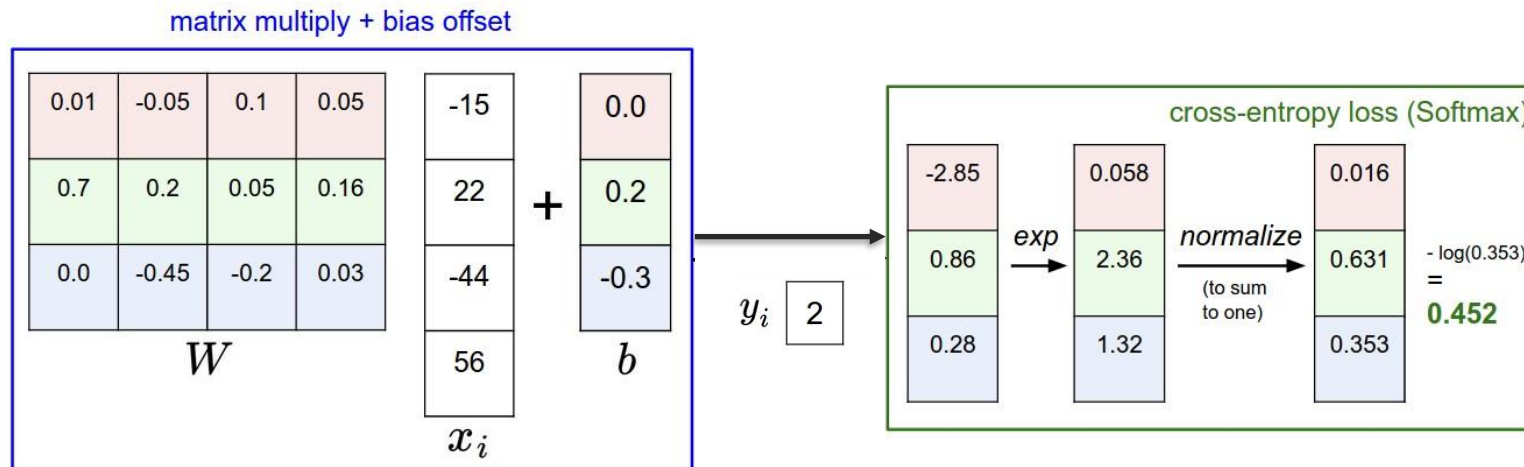
(or logistic loss)

Cross-entropy loss:

$$L_i = -\log \left( \frac{e^{f_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{f_j}} \right)$$

Softmax function

Minimizing the  
negative log likelihood.





## Second Loss Function: Hinge Loss

(or max-margin loss or Multi-class SVM loss)

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i, W)_j - f(x_i, W)_{y_i}) + \Delta$$

loss due to example  $i$

sum over all incorrect labels

difference between the correct class score and incorrect class score



## Second Loss Function: Hinge Loss

(or max-margin loss or Multi-class SVM loss)

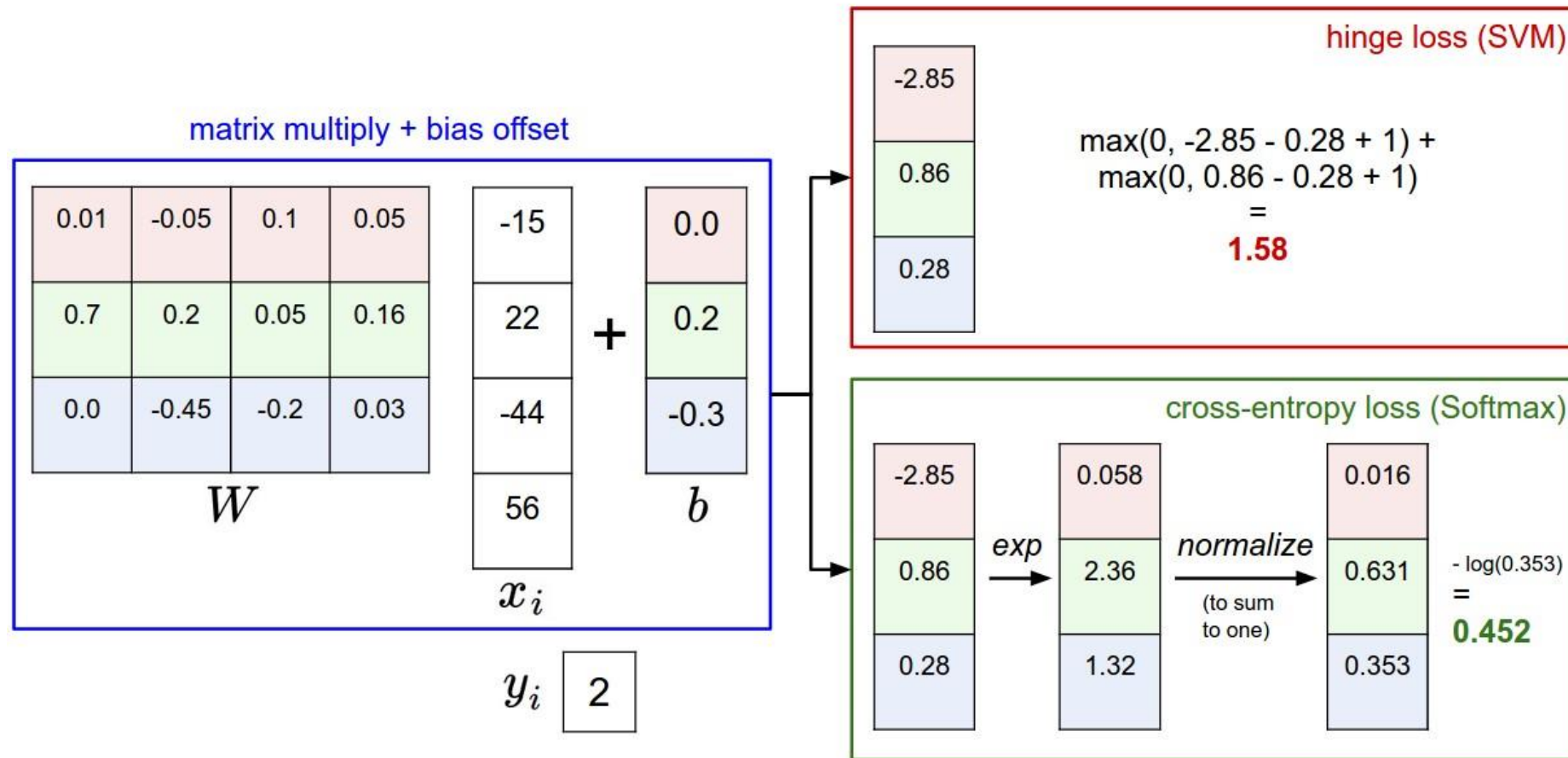
$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i, W)_j - f(x_i, W)_{y_i} + \Delta)$$

↑  
e.g. 10

Example:  $f(x_i, W) = [13, -7, 11]$   
 $y_i = 0$

$$L_i = \max(0, -7 - 13 + 10) + \max(0, 11 - 13 + 10)$$

# Two Loss Functions



# Loss Function

---

Loss function is often made up of three parts

$$L = L_{data} + \lambda_1 L_{regularization} + \lambda_2 L_{constraints}$$

## 1. Data term

How well our model is explaining/predicting training data

e.g. cross-entropy loss, Euclidean loss

$$\sum_i L_i = - \sum_i \log \left( \frac{e^{f_{y_i}(x_i; W)}}{\sum_j e^{f_j(x_i; W)}} \right)$$

$$\sum_i L_i = \sum_i (y_i - f(x_i, W))^2$$

# Loss Function

---

Loss function is often made up of three parts

$$L = L_{data} + \lambda_1 L_{regularization} + \lambda_2 L_{constraints}$$

## 2. Regularization/Smoothness term

Prevent the model from becoming too complex

e.g.  $\|W\|_2$  for parameters smoothness

e.g.  $\|W\|_1$  for parameter sparsity

$\lambda_1$  is a hyper-parameter

Optional, but almost never omitted

# Loss Function

---

Loss function is often made up of three parts

$$L = L_{data} + \lambda_1 L_{regularization} + \lambda_2 L_{constraints}$$

## 3. Additional constraints

Optional and not always used. Help with certain models

Example during lecture 3.2 about coordinated multimodal representation

Example of loss functions using constraints:

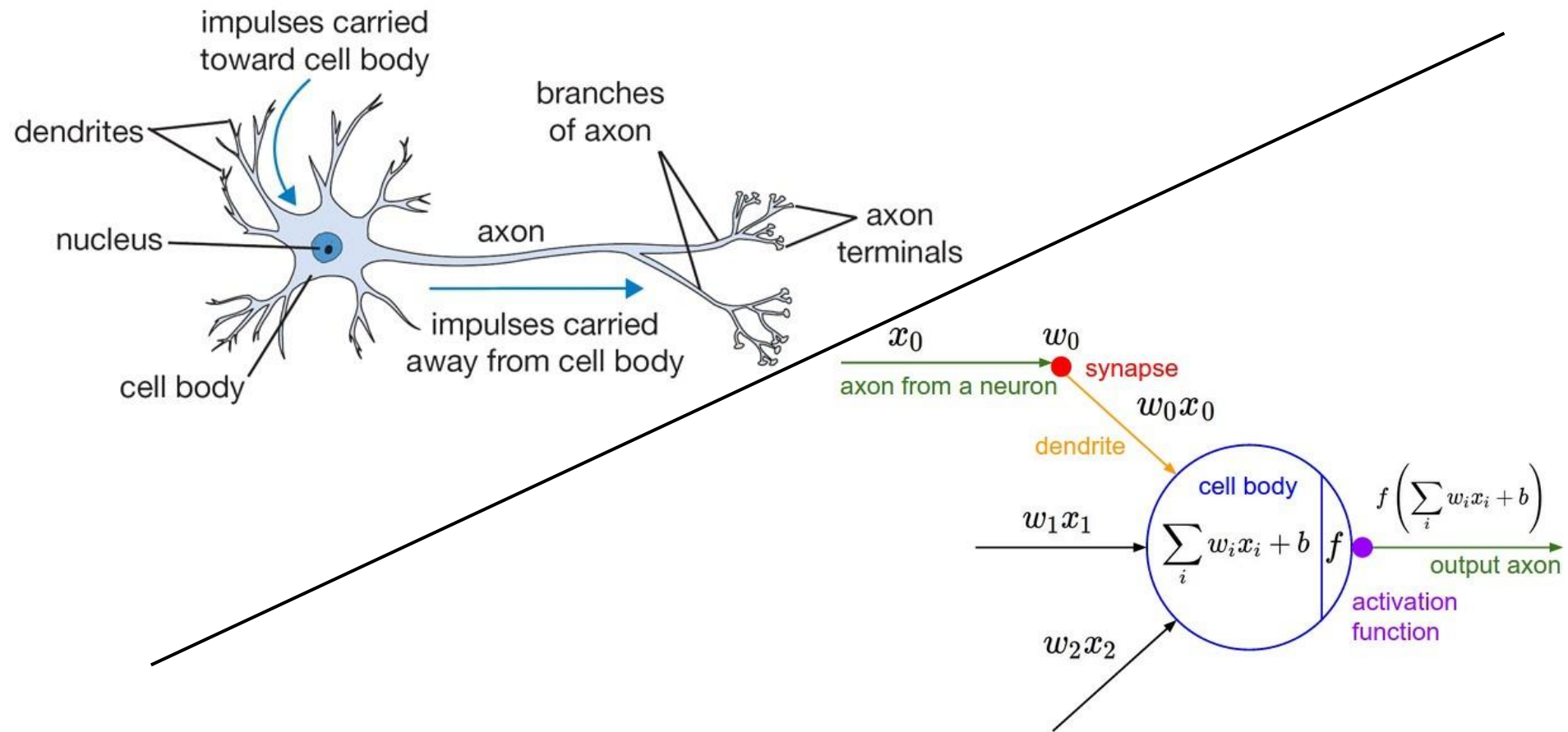
- Triplet loss, hinge ranking loss, reconstruction loss

# Basic Concepts: Neural Networks

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# Neural Networks – inspiration

- Made up of artificial neurons

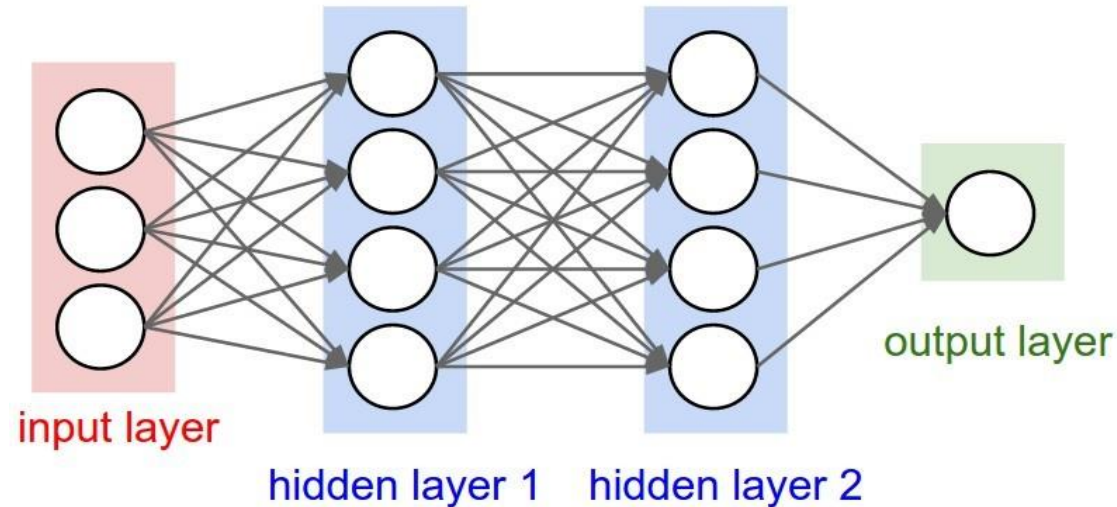




# Neural Networks – score function

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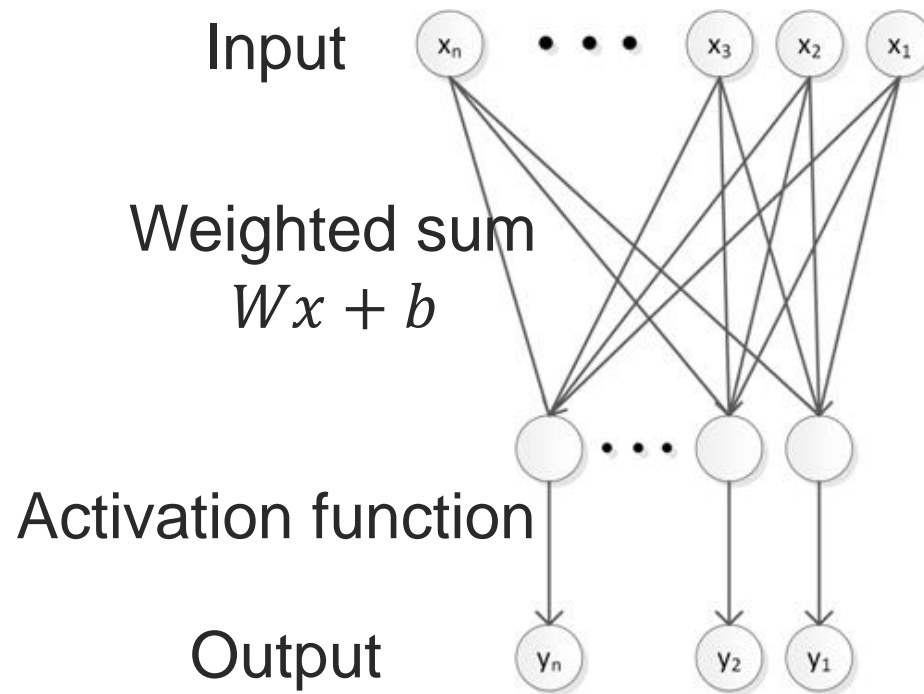
- Made up of artificial neurons
  - Linear function (dot product) followed by a nonlinear activation function
- Example a Multi Layer Perceptron



## Basic NN building block

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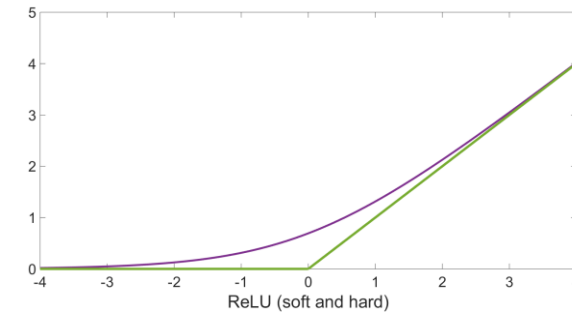
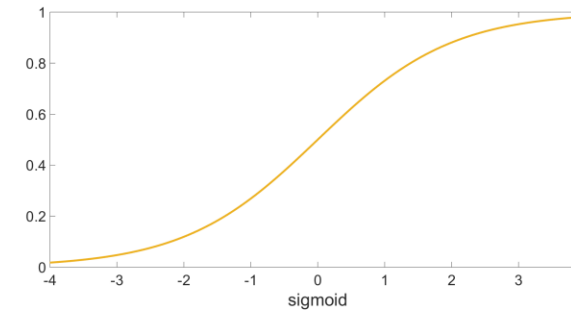
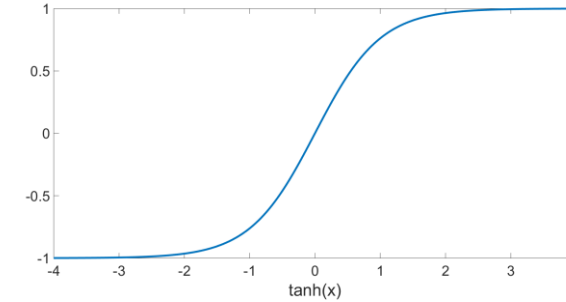
- Weighted sum followed by an activation function



$$y = f(Wx + b)$$

# Neural Networks – activation function

- $f(x) = \tanh(x)$
- Sigmoid -  $f(x) = (1 + e^{-x})^{-1}$
- Linear –  $f(x) = ax + b$
- ReLU  $f(x) = \max(0, x) \sim \log(1 + \exp(x))$ 
  - Rectifier Linear Units
  - Faster training - no gradient vanishing
  - Induces sparsity



# Multi-Layer Feedforward Network

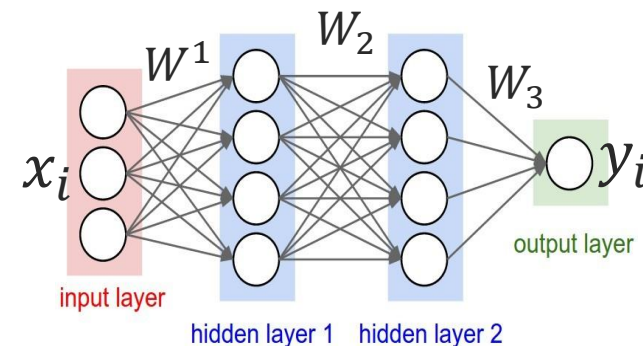
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Activation functions (individual layers)

$$f_{1;W_1}(x) = \sigma(W_1x + b_1)$$

$$f_{2;W_2}(x) = \sigma(W_2x + b_2)$$

$$f_{3;W_3}(x) = \sigma(W_3x + b_3)$$



Score function

$$y_i = f(x_i) = f_{3;W_3}(f_{2;W_2}(f_{1;W_1}(x_i)))$$

Loss function (e.g., Euclidean loss)

$$L_i = (f(x_i) - y_i)^2 = (f_{3;W_3}(f_{2;W_2}(f_{1;W_1}(x_i))))^2$$

# Neural Networks inference and learning

---

- Inference (Testing)
  - Use the score function ( $y = f(x; W)$ )
  - Have a trained model (parameters  $W$ )
- Learning model parameters (Training)
  - Loss function ( $L$ )
  - Gradient
  - Optimization

## Don't Forget! Course Assignments...

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**Today 8pm:** Project preference form

**Tomorrow 8pm:** Your reading selection  
(using the Google Sheet for your study group)

**Friday 8pm:** Post your summary

**Monday 8pm:** Follow-up posts about other papers